

Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii

夏威夷中醫學院

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Mission: To educate and produce practitioners of Traditional Chinese Medicine, and to promote healthcare following the principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

History: The Traditional Chinese Medical College of Hawaii (TCMCH) was founded in 1986 as the Big Island College of Acupuncture with Oriental Herbal Medicine. The current name was adopted in 1996 and along with the name change, the program changed from apprenticeship to a three-class level format. In 2001, the program initiated changes to award the degree Master of Science in Oriental Medicine. In 2002, the College was granted U.S. accreditation by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. TCMCH is registered as a Nonprofit Corporation and degree-granting institution of higher education with the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii. The College is recognized by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service as a 501 (c) 3 organization. It is also authorized by the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service to admit non-resident aliens into the Master of Science in Oriental Medicine program.

Activities: The educational program is run out of the College's Waimea offices on the Big Island. Students take nine trimesters of coursework and generally finish their degrees in three calendar years. The TCMCH program interweaves fundamental Oriental medical theory with clinical skills and Western medical and clinical science, all integrated with the systematic development of clinical expertise by student interns. Graduates are trained in acupuncture, herbology, dietary therapy and energy healing (Qi Gong and more). 98% of the graduates have passed the national licensing exam in acupuncture. There is also a Chinese cultural component to the program of study that includes a look into the philosophy and language of China.

Another primary focus of the College is the Teaching Clinic. TCMCH offers primary and coordinated care to approximately 360 area residents each year. Patients pay a discounted price (\$15 per visit; \$10 for senior citizens, and treatment is free for those whom payment is a serious problem) for acupuncture and other treatments administered by advanced students, and supervised by faculty licensed by the State of Hawaii.

Community activities include free treatments, lectures, health fair exhibits, talks to community groups such as Rotarians, participation in health care conferences, and donations of treatments for fundraisers of local non-profit organizations. Both a staff member and a student have been honored for their volunteer work by the Governor's Kilohana award.

Sources: Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs website; TCMCH website; correspondence with Alexandra Bernstein

Membership: Average enrollment is about 30 students
The College has 15 part-time faculty and staff

Board of directors

Chair: Hank M. Hilliard
Denice Murphy, L.Ac.
Marianne Okamura, M.S.W.
Kickran Boranian, M.D.



*Below and left:
Ear needling*



*Below and right:
Foot moxa*



*Right: Hand needling
Below: Ginger moxa*



*Above and right:
student exams*

